

**CITY OF MORGAN HILL  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES – AUGUST 11, 2004**

***City Council Action***

City Council Members present: Mayor Kennedy and Mayor Pro Tempore Sellers  
City Members absent: Council Members Carr, Chang, and Tate

Other South County Agency Members present: Santa Clara County Board of Supervisor Don Gage; Russ Danielson, Coyote Valley Specific Plan Task Force Member; Craig Edgerton, Coyote Valley Specific Plan Task Force Member and Board of Directors, Santa Clara County Open Space Authority; Alex Kennett, Member and Board of Directors, Santa Clara County Open Space Authority; Steve Kinsella, President, Gavilan College; Dr. Carolyn McKennan, Superintendent, Morgan Hill Unified School District; Shelle Thomas, Vice President, Board of Trustees, Morgan Hill Unified School District; and Rebecca Van Dahlen, Santa Clara County Board of Realtors

The Special Meeting of the City Council scheduled for August 11, 2004 was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

**WORKSHOP: COYOTE VALLEY SPECIFIC PLAN**

Mayor Kennedy and Mayor Pro Tempore Sellers met with the South County Agency Members in attendance and addressed the items listed on the special City Council meeting agenda as follows:

**1. Welcome and Meeting Purpose**

Mayor Kennedy welcomed participants to the meeting and described its purpose.

**2. Summary and Discussion of Coyote Valley Specific Plan Progress**

Contract Planner David Bischoff summarized the progress made by the City of San Jose in development of a specific plan for Coyote Valley and the schedule of future efforts by the City and its appointed Task Force and committees.

Dr. McKennan reported that the District has expressed its concern to the City of San Jose regarding the school sizes and configurations proposed for Coyote Valley. She also indicated that there was a possibility that future meetings would be held between City staff and representatives of the District regarding the District's concerns.

No action was taken relative to this agenda item.

**3. Review of Letter to San Jose Regarding Common Interests**

Contract Planner Bischoff walked the Agency representatives through the draft letter to Mayor Gonzales which it had requested be written at the last meeting.

Supervisor Gage indicated that he felt the letter needed to be more strongly worded in many locations.

Mayor Pro Tempore Sellers agreed with Supervisor Gage. To emphasize his concern, Mr. Sellers indicated that it is common knowledge that people who will work in Coyote Valley will live south of that area. He felt the letter to Mayor Gonzales should ask how the City of San Jose intends to mitigate the obvious impacts that will result from the northbound commute into this area. Mr. Sellers also indicated that it would be important for light rail to be extended south of Coyote Valley to ease the commute impacts.

Regarding the questions about provision of new schools to serve the Coyote Valley, Dr. McKennan felt that they addressed some of the District's concerns but not all of them.

President Kinsella felt that a question needed to be added regarding the flexibility to be incorporated into the plan in recognition of the Districts' abilities to acquire properties anywhere within the Coyote Valley irrespective of the Specific Plan's directives.

Vice-President Thomas said that it would be important to ask how the City of San Jose anticipates funding the purchase of land and construction of schools and support facilities for the District in advance of the need generated by the new homes planned for the area. She also expressed concern regarding the long-term availability of water to serve the development planned for Coyote Valley.

Supervisor Gage recommended adding a question asking the City of San Jose representatives what plans are being made to provide for private recreational facilities, including ball fields, for the area.

Discussion proceeded regarding whether the draft letter represents the views of the participating agencies or only the representatives of the agencies who have participated in the meetings. It was agreed that the letter should indicate that the issues/questions represent the views of the agency representatives and that those representatives are prepared to recommend support of the issues/questions to their respective governing boards.

#### **4. Discussion of Upcoming Meeting with Mayor Gonzales**

Mayor Kennedy indicated that a meeting had been scheduled with Mayor Gonzales for August 25<sup>th</sup>. He said that he would present South County agency concerns to Mayor Gonzales at that meeting and would report the outcome at the next meeting of South County agencies.

#### **5. Future Steps**

It was agreed that the next meeting of South County agencies would be held on August 25<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. at the Community and Cultural Center.

Rebecca Van Dahlen said that she believes that development of Coyote Valley will create traffic congestion in the South County area. She further indicated that she did not believe that Mayor Gonzales would consult with South County agencies regarding this future impact. She asked the group what options were being considered should consultation not occur and traffic impacts be created.

Vice President Thomas asked if South County agencies are willing to take a stand should Mayor Gonzales not adequately respond to the questions posed by the letter.

Mayor Kennedy indicated that he felt the City would take a stand on the issues. But he felt that City of San Jose should first be given a chance to address the agencies' concerns.

#### **6. Public Comments**

Ken Saso indicated that his name was misspelled in the minutes of the previous meeting. He also said that he does not own property within the greenbelt.

The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

**PREPARED BY:**

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**IRMA TORREZ, CITY CLERK**